

The Daily Capital Journal

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THIRTY-EIGHTH YEAR

SALEM, OREGON, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1915

PRICE TWO CENTS ON TRAINS AND NEWS STANDS—FIVE CENTS

CHRISTMAS BRINGS NO CESSATION IN KILLING

No Truce Declared in Trenches As Done Last Year But Fighting Was Not of Much Importance—In Balkans and Gallipoli It Was "A Green Christmas," Firing Along Western Front Ceased for Awhile, to Give Santa Claus a Chance to Make His Heart Cheering Rounds

By Ed. L. Keen.
(United Press staff correspondent.)
London, Dec. 25.—Christmas day saw no cessation of the slaughter in the bloody trenches of Europe. Every where the fighting continued but it was not of marked importance.

Nowhere was there a formal truce such as marked last Christmas. But along the western front last night, the firing ceased while Santa Claus sped along the trenches.

Seventeen months of killing and living in caves had not dulled the Christmas spirit in the hearts of the warriors. Holiday merriment spread only behind the front, but also in the first line trenches when presents from loved ones at home were unwrapped.

Officers on leave of absence declared that despite the lack of a truce, few shots would be fired today.

It was a white Christmas on the Russian and the Vosges fronts, but in the Balkans and Gallipoli it was warm without snow.

bin, Douglas Dold, son of a New York alienist here today.

He said that when the Bulgars stormed Nish he was taken by the bishop to meet the invaders, because the bishop thought the American passport would protect everyone.

Borne by civilians, Dold and the bishop were carried in two huge wicker draped chairs to meet the invaders. Scores of young girls bearing garlands of flowers accompanied them, and they waved a huge white flag.

"To the Bulgars officers, the bishop in surrendering the city kept referring to me and the fact that I was an American," said Dold. "I showed my passport and asked through an interpreter that the invaders spare the city. The Bulgars were courteous and protected the city ideally."

"Scenes preceding the surrender were beyond description. Troops mutilated and killed their commander. They looted Nish and committed outrages. Frantic women begged me to marry them, thinking that an American husband would protect them.

"I saw one woman commit suicide after being maltreated."

Dold's eyesight probably will be restored.

Aviators Friendly

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Aviators of opposing armies spare each other's lives except where a strategic position is involved or where ordered to bring down the enemy. Fred Thompson and Dave Eidekman aviators from the British foreign legion said today.

"This 'brotherhood of the air' gets a flier by safety."

Sometimes, they said, it is necessary to "play dead" to deceive an air-craft gunner, but by carefully maneuvering a man apparently tumbling helplessly to earth can often escape the range of these guns.

Holds Out Olive Branch

Rome, Dec. 25.—The Kaiser issued a Christmas proclamation today to the people of Serbia, promising to respect their nationality and urging them to return to their homes.

Advices to the Serbian legation here said the Germans had installed a provisional government at Nish and forced withdrawal of all Austrian Bulgarian troops from the city. The Austrians and Bulgarians were said to be dissatisfied with this arrangement.

Austrian Note Coming Soon

Amsterdam, Dec. 25.—The Austrian reply to the American note in the Ancona case will be sent to Washington during the week of January 2, Vienna advices said today. These dispatches said important concessions probably will be made.

It was recalled, however, that there were similar reports from Berlin previous to dispatches of the unsatisfactory German reply in the Lusitania case.

Reinforcing Her Armies

Athens, Dec. 25.—The Austrians are diverting troops from Serbia to reinforce the Montenegrin invaders, according to advices today. Salonika dispatches said no Teutonic troops had arrived at the Greek frontier during the past two days.

Wild Scenes at Nish

New York, Dec. 25.—Ill and blind from hardships in relief work in Serbia.

WANTED EIGHT SHIPS

Washington, Dec. 25.—Eight capital ships of 1917 was recommended by the Navy General Board in its confidential report in July, but Secretary Daniels said that in two in making his recommendations, the report published today showed.

In general, the report went much "stronger" than Daniels afterward recommended. In a subsequent report, the board sliced its figures when requested to make recommendations based on spending \$100,000,000 each year for five years.

A CHRISTMAS TRAGEDY

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—John Tobin, laborer, 42 years old, was shot and killed today by Thomas Gaghan, a painter, during a quarrel at Tobin's home.

Gaghan, after killing Tobin, walked to the corner saloon; told the bartender he had killed a man and took the bartender back to the scene of the tragedy where Gaghan was arrested.

Mrs. Mary Gaghan, aged 60, sister-in-law of the slayer and Miss Mary Nolan, aged 96, witnessed the shooting.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Dallas, Tex., Dec. 25.—Pansagist Pappabergopoulos wants to become an American. His application is on file in circuit court here today. He is a native of Greece.

KAISER ALL RIGHT

Amsterdam, Dec. 25.—The Kaiser's illness is so slight that his physician probably will not issue bulletins concerning it.

The Kaiser not only attended Christmas festivities, but entertained fully therein.

Ever notice how children and dogs keep away from some folks?

A lamp exploded at the home of Tipton Bud, had events just as the family was splitting up for the various nickel theaters.

SNOW BLANKETS ST. LOUIS

St. Louis, Dec. 25.—Two men are dead today and 25 persons are injured as the result of a heavy storm which blanketed the city under eight inches of snow.

An unidentified man, found dead in a ravine in the suburbs, was believed to have stepped off a trestle when blinded by the snow. Another man dropped dead from heart failure in a church where he sought refuge after over exertion in plowing his way through the storm.

VISITS SANTA CLAUS FOR LITTLE READERS OF CAPITAL JOURNAL

United Press Reporter Interviews Him at His Home, the North Pole

(United Press Correspondent.)
At the North Pole, (Via Wireless).—Dec. 24.—Santa Claus was just coming out of the big silver barn where some of the Santa Claus children were putting a final gloss on the sleek brown coats of the hundred handsome reindeer in their roomy ivory stalls when the United Press man met him.

"Hello, there," said Santa as he sat down in a big snow chair and went on polishing the armful of spunged harness and carrying, "I'm glad to see you, although I am sort of busy. You see, I'll have to work pretty fast tonight if I'm going to get around to all the little boys and girls in the world. What can I do for you?"

The reporter was surprised to find such a cheerful, busy, wonderful scene here at the North Pole, where everything is just bleak, dreary field of snow and ice and leaden sky 354 of the 365 days in the year, and he couldn't answer at once, he was so busy looking around at the mountains of presents everywhere. He was most of all interested in the little Santa Claus children, hundreds and hundreds of them, all looking like little pictures of their daddy, hopping and skipping busily about among the millions of dolls and hobby horses and toys and games and every kind of thing imaginable, putting the proper name tags on every one—and he really didn't see how they could do it. Then the gigantic silver barn, bigger than all the ordinary barns in the world put together, glittering there in the snowfields. It has to be that big you know, to hold Santa's big steel sleigh. The reporter could see part of the sleigh through one of the purple barn doors and it was so big that—why, just one of the hundred rivets that held it together was three times as long as four ten-year-old boys standing on top of each other's shoulders. And although it was the middle of winter at the North Pole, it wasn't so very cold. The reporter asked Santa Claus about this. Santa laughed and called out in his great, bluff, hearty voice:

"Boreas! Oh, Boreas! Come here and tell this boy why I am so cold at the North Pole today!"

Santa went somewhere away off there was the most terrific whistling and shrieking you ever heard and suddenly, down from the leaden sky dropped the biggest, fiercest-looking old man in flowing white robes that the reporter ever had seen.

"This is my friend, Boreas, the North Wind," said Santa Claus. "How do you do?" shrieked Boreas; and said maybe his breath wasn't cold! "Didn't you know I always have it warm enough for Santa Claus to do his day's work up here once a year? Didn't you know that I do that for him because he takes presents and messages for me to my children, the South Breeze, the East Wind and the Warm Spring Zephyr. I haven't seen them for hundreds of years and if it wasn't for old Santa I don't know what I'd do. What I do for him is little enough." An without another word the fierce old man went roaring and howling back into the sky, looking fiercer than ever.

"I certainly am glad," said Santa, "to see so many places in the United States having municipal Christmas trees for the rich and poor little boys and girls together. I have always done my best to get around to every single one of the little lads, but sometimes I haven't altogether succeeded and I want to tell you that these municipal Christmas trees help me a mighty lot. I wish you'd mention this in your story and let those who haven't done it know how much I would like to have them do it."

"What about the little war orphans in Europe?" Santa was asked.

"I am going to do my level best to remember every one of them," said Santa very seriously; and the reporter thought he saw something that wasn't a frost crystal glisten on the old man's snowy beard. "And that reminds me," he went on, "that I mustn't sit here talking to you any longer. I've got the biggest night's work ahead of me that I have ever known and I'm sure you'll excuse me. Tell the world hello for me and say that I will miss no chimney top in all the world if I can help it, even down to the little sheet iron chimneys in the trenches and those out on the gipsy trail!"

QUARRELS SPOIL CHRISTMAS FOR PEACE ENVOYS

Governor Hanna Quits Party in Rage Saying He Was Misrepresented

DISGUSTED AND WEARY, SORRY AND HOMESICK

Members of Party Sit in Hotel Lobbies and Long For Christmas at Home

By Charles P. Stewart.
(United Press Staff Correspondent.)
Stockholm, Dec. 25.—On the day when Henry Ford hoped, through his peace expedition, to have the men out of Europe's trenches, a fresh row rent the party and Merry Christmas meant anything but a good will.

Governor Hanna, of North Dakota, quit the expedition in a rage because he alleged that his informal calls on Norwegian officials were misrepresented as connected with peace propaganda and thus placing him in an embarrassing position.

Judge Ben Lindsey, of Denver, has obtained Ford's approval for his scheme of aiding war orphans. But other directors of the program, including Gustav Blainiff, Ford's New York automobile branch manager, announced that they will repudiate all meetings they do not authorize. Lindsey, while admitting that the "game is up" so far as ending the war is concerned, declared he will proceed with his meetings, despite this rule of the others.

News that Ford had sailed for America dampened the ardor of the party and spoiled Christmas for many who were homesick. They sat in hotel lobbies and talked disconsolately about Christmas back home.

It is reported that the party will only go to Copenhagen, call a conference and sit a few days, name a permanent peace committee and then adjourn. This peace committee probably will include former Secretary of State Bryan, Jane Addams of Chicago, Henry Ford, Rev. Jenkin Lloyd Jones, and Frederick Holt, provided they will accept.

The party probably will not go to The Hague, as originally planned, in view of the coolness of neutral countries already visited.

PULLING WHISKERS HELD LEGALIZING OF CONTRACT

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 25.—The custom in Assyria of binding a contract between men by exchanging tugs at each other's whiskers, is today held legal and binding in the United States. In deciding the suit of Moses Essey, an Assyrian merchant against Seld Kayat, a peddler, of the same nationality, Judge Easterday of the superior court for division of a commission on a sale of land claiming the latter kept the entire commission of \$220.

Judge Easterday concluded that the contract was made in good faith and was sealed upon honor by the mutual exchange of whisker tugs, and that it was binding upon Kayat to divide the commission.

NO WORK, NO EAT.

Palo Alto, Cal., Dec. 25.—Palo Alto's "hotel de gin" had more than would make a metropolitan hostelry green with envy today, but the tramp guests had to do four hours work to get a share of it.

75,000 JOIN IN CHORUS AROUND GREAT TREE EXPOSITION GROUNDS

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Into homes, plucked by poverty and tragedy, Santa Claus crept today to shed a bit of cheer. Thousands of children, whose Christmas otherwise would have been bleak, gloried in possession of toys and candy, the gifts of a generous populace. One Christmas tree party alone drew for 20,000 kiddies. Pale faced little ones, the victims of an unkind fate, found a joy that had not expected. In the exposition grounds, a municipal Christmas tree disgorged thousands of Christmas bags. Other thousands of Christmas stockings, holding with the good things of the season, found their way into otherwise cheerless homes.

For the grown ups, the memory of last night's Civic Center celebration rested like a benediction.

The silver tones of Alice Gentle's Christmas carols sounded to 75,000 people. Seventy five thousand voices took up the chorus in a mighty volume of song.

Flag-draped, the new city hall stood out against the night in a flood of light. On the balcony, a band blared forth its Christmas music.

A mighty Christmas tree from Hetch Hetchy shed red, green and yellow light over the hedges and blooming flowers of the Center. Atop it, a star symbolical of the Star of Bethlehem which led the Wise Men of old, cast a single stream of light. The climax came when Alice Gentle stepped forward. A hush fell over the throng. Suddenly a flood of melody swept the place. Robed choir boys took up the strains; they spread to the enormous throng and swelled until the night air rang with the old Christmas carols.

As the celebration ended, the national anthem swelled from the thousands of throats, hush came off; the crowd took its way homeward, happier, merrier for the great outdoor celebration.

THESE THREE GIVEN PRICELESS PRESENT

Prison Door Swings Open to Give Men Who "Made Good" Their Pardon

San Quentin, Cal., Dec. 25.—Three men passed through the portals of San Quentin state penitentiary today to freedom.

Warden Johnson was the Santa Claus for under power granted him by the state prison commission, he gave them their passports to the outside world because they had "made good" during their terms.

Christmas in the prison wasn't as gray as it might have been. The state saw to it that the men had "Sunday dinner" and practically every one had some little gifts from friends outside.

Down the grim cell row where the condemned prisoners look out with practically no chance of escaping the noose early in the year, there were special gifts. The heart of the prison went out to them; nickels and dimes, carved wood pieces, "smokes," needlework came from the prisoners to make probably the best Christmas on earth of the condemned men less colorful than it otherwise would have been.

Justice Hughes Talks On Subject of Taxation

Washington, D. C., Dec. 24.—What is a tax? Here is a little essay on taxation by Justice Charles E. Hughes of the United States Supreme court. He delivered it recently from the bench in a small case from Missouri-Houck vs. Little River Drainage district. It appears to open the way for the enactment of more drastic state taxation laws by states than have hitherto been held constitutional.

"A tax is an enforced contribution for the payment of public expenses. It is laid by some rule of apportionment according to which the persons or property taxed share the public burden, and whether taxation operates upon all within the state or upon those of a given class or locality, its essential nature is the same. The power of segregation for taxing purposes has every day illustration in the experiences of local communities, the members of which, by reason of their membership, or the owners of property within the bounds of their political subdivisions, are compelled to bear the burdens both of the successes and of the failures of local administration. When local improvement may be deemed to result in special benefits, a further classification may be made and special assessment accordingly, but even in such cases there is no requirement of the Federal constitution that for every payment there must be an equal benefit. The State in its discretion may lay such assessments in proportion to position, frontage, area, market value or to benefits estimated by commissioners. And as we have said, unless the exaction is a flagrant abuse, and by reason of its arbitrary character is mere confiscation of property, it cannot be maintained that the state has exceeded its taxing power."

Cheer And Death Together

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 25.—Mr. and Mrs. William Gibson of this city had a deeply beloved nephew at the front. Last Christmas he sent them a greeting card. Another card expressing a cheery sentiment arrived from him today, but with it came a note from the British war office, dated a few days later. It said: "Your nephew, Lieutenant Harold MacCulloch, Seaforth Highlanders, killed in action in France."

Poison In Theirs

Tacoma, Wash., Dec. 25.—Ten dogs are patients at the county hospital here today, two of them suffering from severe scalp wounds, as a result of being poisoned by liquor they drank on Christmas eve. The men fell unconscious in the streets at different points and several of them were painfully injured by striking their heads on the pavement. The police think they drank "doped" whiskey, but have not learned where it was dispensed.

Wild Geese For Dinner

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 25.—Inmates of the Sacramento county hospital and other institutions are today feasting on wild geese furnished by the state fish and game commission.

The geese were seized by deputies from hunters who exceeded the limit and were arrested.

There were in all 700 geese distributed among Sacramento charitable institutions.

Oranges from the capital grounds went to the children of the orphanage.

Newlyweds Have Tree

Hot Springs, Va., Dec. 25.—Around a tiny tree in their private suite, President Wilson and his bride celebrated Christmas.

Presents they gave each other, and packages from home folks were opened, but other gifts from officials remained in Washington. About 10:30, the president and his bride talked over their private telephone to the celebrants of the holiday at the White House and wished them all a merry day.

The crowd of hotel guests met the morning train believing some of the president's family was coming, but they were disappointed.

Shared With Employees

New York, Dec. 25.—Prosperity was shared today between employer and employe in several manufacturing plants of the east. The Brooklyn Rapid Transit company boosted its men's wages; Potter and Johnson, of Pawtucket, R. I., gave their employes a five per cent raise; Graftron and Knight, of Worcester, Massachusetts, distributed \$85,000 bonuses.

Was it the Baths?

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Heavy Christmas eve meals, followed too soon by baths, were held responsible today for the deaths of George O'Neill, aged 32, and Patrick McKelvey, aged 74.

WHAT SANTA CLAUS PUT IN THEIR STOCKINGS

President and Bride Have Tiny Christmas Tree— Santa Gave Freedom to Three From San Quentin Prison— Death Came to Some, to Some Sickness—Poison Was Portion of Ten In Tacoma—One, a Judge Who Had Divorced 20,000 Couples, Made Happy by Getting Change of Jobs—Joy, Misery, Sorrow and Happiness

Hls On the Other Side.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—Along the waterfront today, a flag at half mast told sailing men that it wasn't Merry Christmas—for Captain "Hokey" Benges, marine exchange guard, was dead.

Never Heard of Christmas.

Baker, Ore., Dec. 25.—Napoleon Boles, aged 30, is celebrating his first Christmas today. Arrested last night for loitering about the depot, Boles spent the night in jail. This morning Chief of Police Jackson talked to him. Boles didn't know the day of the week, nor the month. He had never heard of Christmas. Chief Jackson explained these mysteries to him and gave him his liberty and a good breakfast.

Theirs in the Hospital.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 25.—Mrs. Ellen Polibronis and her five-year-old son, survivors of the Titanic disaster in 1912 are spending Christmas in a hospital as a result of the mother's heroic attempt to rescue her son from the wheels of an interurban train yesterday. Seeing the train approaching, the boy jumped in front of it with a shout. The mother leaped for the boy and attempted to throw him off the track at the risk of her own life. She was too late. The train struck them, hurling them aside. Both are seriously injured.

Many Given Liberty.

Los Angeles, Cal., Dec. 25.—Liberty was the Christmas present which came today to many city jail prisoners. Twenty trustees, as well as every man and woman arrested on a misdemeanor charge since six o'clock last night were freed by Chief Snively and Police Judge White after having breakfast at the city's expense.

Margaret Had a Tree.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 25.—Far away from home and Broadway, the members of Margaret Illington's company enjoyed a Christmas tree which was set on the stage of a local theatre before the curtain arose for the Christmas nativity performance of "The Lie."

Miss Illington had the tree cut in Oregon last week.

Portland Banks Liberal.

Portland, Or., Dec. 25.—Cash Christmas gifts aggregating \$250,000 were distributed by Portland banks today. One of the largest banks gave each employe an additional month's salary, but half a month's salary was the gift of most of them. Some banks distributed cash presents according to the length of service of the employes.

Three Made Happy.

Sacramento, Cal., Dec. 25.—Christmas brought pardons to three convicts at Folsom state prison. Two of them have secured permanent positions in Sacramento and will start work Monday.

Warden Smith arranged for a combination motion picture and vaudeville show that was given during the morning and at noon the 1,129 convicts sat down to a big feast, roasts pork being the chief dish.

The vaudeville acts were furnished by Manager Alexander Kaiser of the Empress theatre, Sacramento.

Something For Salvation.

New York, Dec. 25.—George Griggs Buchanan noticed contributions were slow for a Salvation Army lassie near the Stock Exchange. Taking her cap, uniform hat and tambourine he collected \$100 for her on the exchange floor.

Then Got a Message.

San Diego, Cal., Dec. 25.—Officers and crews of the nine American warships doing lonely duty at Guaymas, west coast of Mexico, were assured they were not forgotten by the folks at home today when a wireless message of Christmas greeting was sent by exposition and city officials. In return Admiral Winslow, commander of the Pacific fleet, wireless a reply from his flagship, the cruiser San Diego. He also sent greetings to the other ships of the fleet, which are in a San Diego harbor for the holidays.

What Christmas Brought Her.

San Francisco, Dec. 25.—"I'll be home for Christmas and have a surprise for you."

Thus ran a letter from Captain Chas. Jackson, pioneer skipper of the Matson bark R. P. Rihet, to his wife before he sailed from Honolulu to his home port.

Mrs. Jackson waited anxiously at the pier for the Christmas surprise. It came. It was a little slab, carved by the sailors at sea, with this inscription: "Rest in peace."

For the captain had sailed into the unknown and was buried at sea.



Ever notice how children and dogs keep away from some folks? A lamp exploded at the home of Tipton Bud, had events just as the family was splitting up for the various nickel theaters.